



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

10/669,497

09/23/2003

Robert A. Libby

02850

3985

7590

06/28/2006

Thomas R. Shaffer, Esq.
5 East Third Street
PO Box 509
Coudersport, PA 16915

EXAMINER

PATEL, HARSHAD C

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2839

DATE MAILED: 06/28/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/669,497	Applicant(s) LIBBY ET AL.	
	Examiner Harshad C. Patel	Art Unit 2839	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 September 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 - 62 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2, 4 and 6-62 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 3 and 5 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 23 September 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>1/2/04</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. The numbering of claims is not in accordance with 37 CFR 1.126 which requires the original numbering of the claims to be preserved throughout the prosecution. When claims are canceled, the remaining claims must not be renumbered. When new claims are presented, they must be numbered consecutively beginning with the number next following the highest numbered claims previously presented (whether entered or not).

Misnumbered claim 22 (2nd occurrence) is renumbered as 23; the dependency of this claim is left to 22.

Claims 23 - 27 (first occurrence) have been renumbered as 24 - 28.

Misnumbered claim 27 (2nd occurrence) has been renumbered as 29, the dependency of this claim is left to 28.

Claims 28 - 60 have been renumbered as 30 - 62; the dependencies of these claims have been changed accordingly.

Applicant is required to refer to the claims by their new numbers only.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter, which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 3 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 3 and 5, line 2 recites, "has a central ridge a bottom portion" is confusing and hence it is vague and indefinite.

The Examiner interprets the recitation "has a central ridge a bottom portion" as -- has a central ridge provided on a bottom portion - -.

Only few of the deficiencies have been pointed out above, the Applicant is required to review all the claims and make all necessary correction.

Appropriate corrections are required.

Applicant is required to refer to claims by their new numbers only.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 3 and 5 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

All the elements recited in claim 3 and 5 define over the art of record.

4. Claims 1, 2, 4, 6 - 62 are allowed.

Reasons for Allowances

5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding claim 1, the applicant's invention of an electrical connector for providing an electrical connection to an unstripped end of an insulated electrical cable having an outer sheath within which an insulated hot wire, an insulated neutral wire, and a ground wire are enclosed comprising: a body formed of an electrically insulating material, said body having a first body end and a second body end, said body having a cavity in said first body end sized to receive said unstripped end of insulated electrical

Art Unit: 2839

cable; a lid having a first lid end and a second lid end, said second lid end pivotally connected to said second body end, said lid adapted to rotate around an axis of rotation between an open position and a closed position; and plural blade conductors attached to said lid comprising a hot blade conductor, a neutral blade conductor, and at least one ground blade conductor, said blade conductors each having blade end comprising at least one downwardly depending blade and an outlet portion, said blade conductors being spaced apart and attached to the lid whereby when said lid is in open position said blades do not extend within said cavity and when said lid is in a closed position said blades do extend within said cavity.

Reeser and (US 6,152,760) and DeRoss et al. (US 6,074,238) disclose, an electrical connector for providing an electrical connection to an unstripped end of an insulated electrical cable having an outer sheath within which an insulated hot wire, an insulated neutral wire, and a ground wire are enclosed comprising: a body formed of an electrically insulating material, said body having a first body end and a second body end, said body having a cavity in said first body end sized to receive said unstripped end of insulated electrical cable; a lid having a first lid end and a second lid end, said second lid end pivotally connected to said second body end, said lid adapted to rotate around an axis of rotation between an open position and a closed position.

However the prior art of record of Reeser and DeRoss et al., specifically fails to disclose, and plural blade conductors attached to said lid comprising a hot blade conductor, a neutral blade conductor, and at least one ground blade conductor, said blade conductors each having blade end comprising at least one downwardly

Art Unit: 2839

depending blade and an outlet portion, said blades conductors being spaced apart and attached to the lid whereby when said lid is in open position said blades do not extend within said cavity and when said lid in a closed position said blades do extend within said cavity.

Claims 2, 4, 6 - 62 depend from claim 1.


Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Harshad C. Patel whose telephone number is 571 272 8289. The examiner can normally be reached on M - F ; 8.00 AM TO 5.00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, T. C. Patel can be reached on 571 272 2098. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Examiner
HCP
6/20/06


TULSIDAS C. PATEL
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER